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**Sent:** Wednesday, December 18, 2019 3:45 PM
**Subject:** RE: A Davies death

Hi Ron

This particular burial is not on the Australian Cemeteries Index. There are some cemeteries that haven’t been included. Unfortunately, I can’t access the SMH entry at the moment because I can’t remember my logon or password for the State Library website.

You could order the DC through: <https://familyhistory.bdm.nsw.gov.au/lifelink/familyhistory/search/deaths?1>

They are $35 and go for the posted one, not the digital version. Alternatively, you could use a transcription agent. Both Marylin Rowan and Joy Murrin are very well reviewed:

<http://www.marilynrowan.com.au/>

<http://www.joymurrin.com.au/shop/nsw-transcription/>

Regards

Jim

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**Sent:** Tuesday, December 17, 2019 3:33 PM
**Subject:** RE: A Davies death

It is **exactly** him. Lived in Booker Bay Road, born Devonport NZ. The evil old bugger managed to live to 94! Obviously his last years were not that wonderful. Can you access the SMH entry? Maybe even the burial details?

Many thanks.

R

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On 17 December 2019 at 17:05 jim fleming <jim.fleming@ozemail.com.au> wrote:

Could this be him?



Booker Bay is right next to Woy Woy.

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**From:** Ron Davis <ron.davis1@xtra.co.nz>
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 17, 2019 1:56 PM
**To:** jim fleming <jim.fleming@ozemail.com.au>
**Subject:** RE: A Davies death

That is such thorough work. Thanks so much. I owe you.

My hopes were up upon the arrival of that George William Davies on the scene, but once it was clear he was only 52 at death, it became absolutely certain he couldn't be my granddad, who was 82 the year of the other George's death (at 52). And he had no wife, just a long time live-in slave called Nelly, who had to litigate to get any of his estate. He left it all to a hospice and my aunt (his daughter Hilda Hayter) had to go to NSW to help poor penniless Nelly (nobody knows her surname, but we all agree she was a badly suffering sweetie) mount her court case. My Paternal side is full of ghastly men. George William Henry was not the least of them.

All the other Davies you uncovered are definite non-starters.

I'd say you have gone as far as anybody could expect in regards my query. This is a toughie which I suspect will never be satisfactorily resolved at this point.

Again, you are an absolute champ and one of the undoubted gems in the family crown.

Have a great Christmas, both.

Ron

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On 17 December 2019 at 14:59 jim fleming <jim.fleming@ozemail.com.au> wrote:

Hi Ron

The NSW Registry of BDM is online, but death indexes are only published after 100 years. The next best bet is the Ryerson Index. This is an index of over two million Australian death notices, funeral notices and obituaries taken from major newspapers over many years by the late Joyce Ryerson. After her death her work was continued by genealogy volunteers and it is now available for free online here: <http://ryersonindex.org/index.htm>

Note that this is only an index; it does not provide the actual newspaper notice or obituary, but this can usually be found once we find the reference on Ryerson.

I first searched Ryerson for George Davies and location “Woy”. This brought up three hits that all relate to a George Michael Davies (1863-1925) of Mosman, formerly of Woy Woy – perhaps George Henry William Davies’ father? Here are the detailed results:



The 25/9/1925 funeral notice in the SMH is available on Trove here: <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/16244797?searchTerm=%22george%20Davies%22&searchLimits=exactPhrase=george+Davies|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1925-01-01|||dateTo=1925-12-31|||l-advtitle=35|||sortby>

There are actually 3 notices. The third one mentions “Mr and Mrs G. V. Davies and family, of Woy Woy”, as some of the main family members. This looks like your grandfather and his wife. (You can download images from Trove by clicking on the  button on the left of the screen.) Other Trove hits include:

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/16244526?searchTerm=%22george%20Davies%22&searchLimits=exactPhrase=george+Davies|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1925-01-01|||dateTo=1925-12-31|||l-advtitle=35|||sortby>

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/16244468?searchTerm=%22george%20Davies%22&searchLimits=exactPhrase=george+Davies|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1925-01-01|||dateTo=1925-12-31|||l-advtitle=35|||sortby>

But this is not your grandfather. Back to Ryerson. A search for George Davies records between 1960 and 1980 throws up 54 records. I narrowed the search to 1965 to 1975 = 32 records. I noticed that one of these is:



I think this is him; Umina is next to Woy Woy. Unfortunately, Trove only has the SMH up to 1954. But never fear, I may be able to access later years through my membership of the NSW State Library. Let me know if you would like me to do so.

Finally, I searched the Australian Cemeteries Index (<https://austcemindex.com/>). (You can also search this through the Ryerson site.) I have found the grave of the one who died at Umina in 1973. He is buried in the Point Clare (Gosford NSW) cemetery and you can see details of the grave (including a photograph of the gravestone) here: <https://austcemindex.com/inscription?id=7767705>. Was your grandfather married to a Beatrice? The page for this grave links to another page that contains possible “other sources” for the deceased (see here: <https://austcemindex.com/other-sources?id=7767705>). This indicates that his NSW DC is number 40970/1973. You could order this from the NSW BDM (as his descendant). There is a link to [Search NSW BDM Deaths] on the page which leads to another page here: <https://austcemindex.com/bdm?event=deaths&family_name=Davies&given_names=George&min_year=1973&max_year=1973>. This gives his parents as William Michael George (Davies) and Elsie Elizabeth – but it is unclear where this information comes from. I presume that someone with a copy of his DC has put it into the database at the Australian Cemeteries Index.

The site also lists a NSW MC 23438/1959 to Beatrice Phillips at Marrickville.

I hope that this is him!

Regards

Jim

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**Sent:** Monday, December 16, 2019 4:05 PM
**Subject:** A Davies death

Kia ora dear valued cousin Jim.

I wonder if I could beg (or otherwise solicit) a favour.

My estranged paternal grandfather, George Henry William Davies, lived in Woywoy NSW, and died there circa 1970.

The family have not been able to determine his date of death and burial details. Could one of the sites you have access to assist do you think?

Many thanks

Ron

Sent: Monday, October 28, 2019 3:33 PM

Hi Ron

The Taylor surname is intriguing, as we do have that surname in our ancestry. Our ancestor Elizabeth Fleming nee Taylor (1831-1881) descended from Charles Taylor (1809-1877), Alexander Taylor (1780-1859) and Charles Taylor (ca 1740-). They were coal miners, so it is possible that a cousin of Elizabeth could have moved to England to work in the mines there, although the Christian names James, Leah, Arthur, Albert and Andrew don’t feature in our Taylor family.

With it being Autosomal, the connection could be on any of your ancestral lines; unrelated to me.

I’ve been a bit off since I got home. I picked up a throat infection on the flight from Athens to Doha and spent a couple of days laid up in bed with it. Also my sleeping patterns have been utterly wrecked by jetlag. But the last few days have been better, so I’m almost back to full fighting weight. We are already thinking about the next holiday – but I’m thinking of splashing out for Business Class on those killer long haul flights in future!

I gave my brother a YDNA test for Christmas last year! I used FamilyTreeDNA and they were good: https://www.familytreedna.com/. I would recommend them. You can choose between 37, 67, 111 and 700 STR checks; the higher the number the better the potential match accuracy. Get the highest number you can afford, but they are bloody expensive. I got Patrick the 111 test which is now $US359! I don’t think I paid that much; maybe I swooped on a special. It might be worth waiting for a special deal to come up.

Patrick’s DNA matched closely with Mr Don Fleming (an Australian) so I am furiously researching to find a common Fleming ancestor. No luck so far, but I think I’m getting warmer.

Regards

Jim

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Sent: Monday, October 28, 2019 12:44 PM

Autosomal. I think I'm at the point of doing a yDNA. Can you advise a good provider?

My problem is that I appear to have some very odd but not insignificant traces not shared by any of my family either side. Yet all my relations who have taken the same test on both sides pop up as closely related to me. So I seem not to be a product of cuckoldry. Not that that would bother me overly.

You both keeping well? Your holiday looked absolutely terrific.

Regards

Ron

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On 28 October 2019 at 13:39 jim fleming <jim.fleming@ozemail.com.au> wrote:

Hi Ron

What sort of DNA test does this match relate to? Is it YDna, Mitochondrial DNA or Autosomal DNA? YDNA is paternal; Mitochondrial is maternal; Autosomal is everything.

Jim

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From: Ron Davis <ron.davis1@xtra.co.nz>

Sent: Sunday, October 27, 2019 2:28 PM

To: jim fleming <jim.fleming@ozemail.com.au>

Subject: Fwd: RE: Ron Davis, you've got DNA Matches! (Sep 23 2019)

Sorry, sent previous email unfinished. To continue, Mary Avis Buckley was born 1843 and d. 1907. The next Taylor generation back was a William Taylor. Any connections in your database?

I didn't get to OZ this time around, hence no attempt at contacting you. Maybe one day....

Ron

---------- Original Message ----------

From: Ron Davis <ron.davis1@xtra.co.nz>

To: jim fleming <jim.fleming@ozemail.com.au>

Date: 27 October 2019 at 16:20

Subject: RE: Ron Davis, you've got DNA Matches! (Sep 23 2019)

OK, here goes. The Andrew (not Arthur, my bad) Taylor whose DNA is a match with mine was born in Wexford, Ireland, in 1982. His dad is unknown (or unstated in his family tree). His granddad is Albert Henry Taylor 1922 (England) - 1967 and grandmother Margaret Duffin born 1929 Wexford (Eire) - 1989. His great great grands are Arthur John Taylor (Rusholme Lancashire 1897-?) and My E. Cheetham (1895-?). Next generation back is apparently a solo mother, Leah Mary Taylor (1875 Wybunbury Cheshire - 1953 Melbourne). Her dad was James Taylor (1841 Longsight Manchester - 1905), and mother Mary Avis Buckley

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On 26 October 2019 at 17:06 jim fleming <jim.fleming@ozemail.com.au> wrote:

Hi Ron

I’m now back from my holiday, so am working my way through some neglected emails, including this one.

I haven’t been able to look into it because the link leads to your MyHeritage account that requires a password for access. I do have a MyHeritage account but it is not working at present.

Can you send me the details?

Regards

Jim

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From: Ron Davis <ron.davis1@xtra.co.nz>

Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2019 3:30 PM

To: jim fleming <jim.fleming@ozemail.com.au>

Subject: Fwd: Ron Davis, you've got DNA Matches! (Sep 23 2019)

Kia ora Jim.

Please click on Review Match and scroll down to Arthur Taylor, and see if you can determine where on our tree he might fit. DNA shouldn’t lie.

Ta

Ron

Sent from my iPad

Your privacy is important to us. View our Privacy Policy for more information.

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From: Ron Davis <ron.davis1@xtra.co.nz>

Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2019 2:31 PM

To: jim fleming <jim.fleming@ozemail.com.au>

Subject: Charles' diary

Man a bloody live. What a MENSCH was my great grandfather (your gg grand) Charles.

Just read the diary. :-O

First, what a hunk. (Has anyone else remarked on the likeness between you and him?) Second, despite totally unmerited apologies for not being up to writing decent enough descriptions, I found myself looking over Charles' shoulder on that journey in 1883 with adrenaline coursing and emotions in tatters. A raw piece of work, at times gutwrenchingly visceral. "Less is more" young authors are constantly told, and Charles Fleming just delivered me an object lesson in that. As for "show don't tell" what about those word pictures of the ship heaving, the seas mountaining and "boiling", the spars tumbling, kids dying? Joshua Slocomb had very little on our ancestor I swear.

And so often "it was a good day", while, regardless, you and I know it was all tough grind. Well, I'm the usual Pollyanna in the family. Now I know where it comes from!!

I have to go back and severely edit the essay I pieced together on the journey Greenock to NZ in 1842 of my mum's g grandparents. My research was pretty good, as you'd expect of an academic, but I know I achieved nothing even close to the thrill I got from a plain man's plain English. And now the corresponding story I must yet write of the Flemings arrival down under should reek with believability if not rank plagiarism.

And your Ballantyne essays? Love them. Love your work. But most of all I'm thrilled to discover a relative with similar academic curiosity and love of words.

Thing is, dear cousin, I have degrees in Philosophy and linguistics, with electives in politics, law, theology, business management and accountancy, and I read extensively in science, but It was more of a duty than a passion for me to begin ploughing through the 5 volume history of the Woodlocks (Nanna Kathleen Woodlock married a handsome Sot, Will Fleming, son of Charles) over Christmas hols at the beach, with my sister Dianne insisting that at least ONE of us should read it so get on with it dear scholar brother. What's the use of all that education anyway?

And it was sister Dianne who insisted that seeing I was the one with some smatterings of knowledge about the family it behoved me to start writing down what i knew. Of course, once I started (like the whining schoolboy....creeping like snail unwillingly to school) I discovered how little I really knew and (my disciplines being what they are) had to start winkling out some fill-in detail. Well, I soon learned that the fill-in was barnsfull more than the little I knew. Thus it was that I kind of fell into the role of (very) amateur genealogist. So, I stand in awe of what you have accomplished, both in terms of skills-set and product. You are a whizz, young fellow.

Enough for now. I'm sure, with your family closeness and miles of FB friends, you have more than enough to fill the day. Meaningfully, that is.

I will persist in contacting you live on FB. One day it might work.

Warmest

Ron

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From: Ron Davis <ron.davis1@xtra.co.nz>

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2019 3:17 PM

To: jim fleming <jim.fleming@ozemail.com.au>

Subject: RE: Scottish rellies

Quite right about my siblings, and Ross Fleming's. Fuller details will follow.

My sister Faye was also gay, but she'd married and had kids before discovering it. Then it was all downhill for her.

I had suspicions about my Uncle Ron Fleming who married at 40, and his first cousin Brian Woodlock who never married and is to the Woodlocks what you are to the Flemings (genealogist), plus another Woodlock who married late. One of Immaculata Fleming's sons, Neil, is gay, but he, too married first. I spent the better part of my life trying to escape the various guys determined to hook on to me. Unscathed me, but then I'm completely heartless, and probably not gay at all, according to some. It's complicated, dear cousin.

Thank you for the info about the My Heritage hints. If you ever get to verify any I'll remove the "provisional" flags and go with it. At present they're just like stray cats hanging around for a meal.

BTW I adore dogs and dislike cats intensely. Why? They kill birds which i love, if not exactly twitch over. We have a native falcon which is an absolute honey, and the Kakapo flightless parrot which is a lumbering little gem, and close to extinction. Then there's the gorgeous wood pigeon and blue-black character-filled (and ubiquitous) Tui with the white tuft under his chin. The funniest and most mischievous of all is the Kea parrot - green with beautiful scarlet beneath his wings that flash as he flies. Kea can dismantle a car in 20 minutes flat, and shriek with laughter at the discomfit of returning owners.

I used to believe that the most illustrious of my forbears were the Woodlocks (Roscrea and Dublin, Church and law). I think the Flemings now take centre stage on that score. Through Dad's Cornish ancestry we can trace back to the De Sutton's who came across with Wm Conq. Plus several other noble families of Devon that they all married around and two High Sheriffs. Of course NONE of this is in the least verifiable, but it makes a good tale.

Flandrensis smacks of Flanders, of course, so that pretty much isolates one very probable starting point. But, not all that keen on the Dutch meself. Nor Belgians, oh except Eric Van Dam.

Be in touch again. Warmest to you and J.

RSent: Tuesday, August 13, 2019 1:54 PM

Subject: RE: Scottish rellies

Hi Ron

I’m sorry that the Messenger phone call did not go through. It is not uncommon that I fail to hear the phone ring – and it’s not due to deafness; I’m sure that it doesn’t actually ring most times!

Yes, I agree that the different spellings of Ballantyne are meaningless because they pre-date widespread literacy and standardised spelling. So, I just pick a spelling and stick to it. I also agree on the Christian versus Christina issue. I have come to the conclusion that, for all intents and purposes, these were the same name. The same goes for Jane and Jean; and Isobel and Isabella.

I will have to do some research on the hints that you have acquired through My Heritage. I am a member of that site but I don’t currently have a paid subscription. I am currently paying at Ancestry and FindMyPast and can’t justify another one! Let alone have the time to follow up all the hints. I now tend to focus on one family at a time and ignore hints from other branches until I have finished with that first family and can switch to another one. At the moment I am tapering off on research (due to preparations for the impending holiday; and the need to follow-up recent DNA matches). My most extensive and up-to-date online tree is on Ancestry. The My Heritage one may need to be updated – it is a few years old.

In relation to Thomas Ballantyne (b1771), I had a quick look in my database and I have recorded his death as “before 1851” because he does not appear on the Scottish census for that year. I am very doubtful about that hint for a death record in Harwich – it is not in Scotland. I wonder if this is where the information about his supposed parents comes from?

I think the information about Christina Dow’s birth is different in different sources. But without an actual baptism record, we cannot say which one is correct. I have two birth possibilities for her in my database.

All that information about Helen Frame and her marriages is interesting. I will need to have a search for these on ScotlandPeople at some stage. The same goes for all the additional information on John Frame; and Isabella Young.

According to my database, your siblings are Faye, Robert and Dianne – have I got that right? I haven’t recorded where I got this from. Also, I have your cousin Ross with siblings Kathleen, James and Ann.

I have just remembered that my nephew Jed is not quite the last hope for continuing the Fleming name in Oz. There is also my cousin David Fleming who lives in Mackay (Qld). His father Geoff (just 5 years older than me) is Dad’s half-brother. David is married and has two step-children, but no natural children (yet).

That story about the Flemings belonging to Clan Murray is ubiquitous – I have a number of Murray Clan items around, like paperweights and what not. But I have found no basis for this idea in my extensive reading on Fleming family history. F Lawrence Fleming makes no mention of it in his book Exploring the True Heritage of the Fleming Family Name. William Hunter says nothing in his book Biggar and the House of Fleming (1862). As a matter of fact, one of the projects that I have on my list is to write a book (tentatively entitled The Fleming Clans) that is designed to dispose of this idea once and for all. In my opinion, the Fleming family was never associated with any of the Scottish Clans because the Fleming family would have been a clan in its own right had it survived long enough. The Fleming family was at least the equal if not greater than most of the existing clan families in its day (C13 to C18). But the line of the Earls of Wigtoun and the Lords Fleming ended when it ran out of male heirs; everything devolved onto the heiress Lady Clementine Fleming and passed to her son John Elphinstone (who was also heir to the equally rich Elphinstone family). The Fleming lands are still held by the Elphinstone family to this day. For this reason, the Scottish Clan Fleming is an Armigerous Clan – which basically means leaderless; or extinct. More here: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clan\_Fleming. But in the days of the powerful Fleming family, the concept of Clans (as we know it today) had not emerged; it is a C19 concept – essentially promoted by Sir Walter Scott.

I am an adherent to the theory first proposed by F Lawrence Fleming that the modern-day Fleming families in Scotland are all directly descended from a single progenitor who lived in the eleventh or twelfth century. That progenitor was probably Erchenbald Flandrensis who was given several manors in Cornwall and Devon by William the Conqueror. His grandson Baldwin is probably the same as Baldwin of Biggar (c 1110 – c 1174). A descendant of Baldwin of Biggar married Robert Fleming (the progenitor of the Earls of Wigtoun and the Lords Fleming) in the thirteenth century – Robert was probably also descended from Erchenbald. But this is all is going off on a tangent!

Maybe there is a gay gene on the Fleming side! Both my sisters are also gay but I have generally put that down to our maternal inheritance (quite a few on Mum’s side including Mum’s sister and her first cousin; plus others). My grandmother insisted that her first husband (my grandfather) was gay – even though he was married twice and the first one was a shotgun job. Apparently there is more, but I haven’t wormed it out of my cousin yet!

Now, you better let me know when you are transiting Sydney next time and we can have you over for dinner or something.

Bye for now

Jim

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Sent: Monday, August 12, 2019 9:49 PM

Subject: Scottish rellies

Kia ora Jim.

Did you make useful Fleming contacts today in Scotland the brave?

BTW, my Auntie Ima (mum's sister) used to say that through the Flemings (or the Ballantynes I suppose) we can lay claim to the Murray of Athol clan. I visited blair Athol, but nobody there knew anything about us. Nor could they care less, I must admit. Any ideas?

R

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Sent: Monday, August 12, 2019 2:55 PM

Subject: My tangled.....

Kia ora Jim.

Reference: My Tangled Ballantynes.

I, Too had puzzled over two Ballantynes marrying each other, and. like you, had decided they were probably distant cousins. Parallel sites on My Heritage suggested that Christina may have been a Ballantyne who married a Ballentine (or vice versa). I suspect that is a pointless and misleading distinction when one considers the rate of literacy in those days. People generally wrote (if they could at all) how names sounded to the ear. In the old churchyard in East Kilbride I noted most Ballantynes were spelled with a and y.

Re page 10 (tree). Matches from My Heritage delivered some interesting additions which I have added into my tree with "provisional" noted each time in that I'm only prepared to accept your research (being as thorough as ever I've seen) ultimately as kosher. "My Heritage" variations and additions follow:

Thomas Ballantyne b. 1771. Web site Ballantyne 1, Paul Mercer, Canada. (several other sites largely concur). Often referred to as Thomas B Ballantyne, and once as Thomas Ballantyne Ballantyne, so I suspect the "B" is redundant if not totally inapplicable.He is once given a death date of 1851 in Harwich. Thomas is given a father, Robert Ballantyne (Robert's brothers James, John, Robert), and a wife Agnes Porteous. Parentage of our 1771 Thomas is properly credited

Christina Dow b. not 1801, but 1805 in Avondale.

Helen Frame (b. Nov 18 1767) married James Dow (b. 1767 Alloa, Clackmannon) in 1792 - at 25 this appears to have been HER SECOND MARRIAGE. In 1787 at age 20 her 1st marriage appears to have been to a John Bryson, but they apparently had no kids in the five years up to Helen's 2nd marriage to James Dow, and HE seems to have been quite the marital performer. One may speculate (even scandalously) at poor Mr. Bryson's inability to sire offspring, but since his date of death shows up nowhere, the kindest version may well be that he died soon after marriage to Helen Frame, and that she delayed 5 years until ready for another "go" at matrimony. The web site for all this is "Wilder (Familysearch Tree Sync)", site manager Janice Wilder USA. Helen then has 14 kids, many of whom the web site gives the surname Bryson to, but since they were all born AFTER the marriage of Helen to James Dow in 1792, I think the site manager is simply confused. What makes the 2 x marriages scenario more credible to me is that a girl in those days was well married with kids by age 20, so that a 1st marriage at 25 for Helen would have been pretty unusual. Thus I can well believe it was her second.

John Frame. Potter Web Site, managed by Jan Potter of the UK, appears to enlarge on Helen's father, John Frame b. Dec 10 1740 Avondale. He is given a wife, Christian (sic., but the name appears to have morphed in time to Christina) Boyd b.1730 Hamilton Scotland. He is also credited with a father, John Frame b. 1704 Avondale, and a mother, Helen Hamilton b. 1708 Avondale. (She may well be a cousin of the Janet Hamilton who married Peter Park, b. 1743, decades later).

Isabella (Young) Ballantyne. The web site is one of these 3 (hard to tell): g\_Leg8. g.Leg8, or gLeg8, managed by Gordon Leggate UK. Details broadly seem to match correctly, except she is called Isobel Ballintyne b. Feb 24 1763. She is given a dad, William Young, but no dates and no mother.

Hope this sheds more light than smoke and is useful.

Warmest

Ron

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Sent: Sunday, August 11, 2019 8:12 PM

Subject: family

Kia ora e te whanau. (Hi family)

Truly delighted to get your last email.

Well, sonny Jim, I took one look at your FB page and said to myself: "Crikey. That guy could be my brother!"

And the rest of it? You and I are fated to be kissing cousins. Get used to it.

For the same reasons as yours I will not be perpetuating the Davis/Davies line. No partner even. Outgrew (or outlived) all of them. Probably the single-most reason I'm probably the happiest person you'll ever meet.

And let's make sure we do meet. I have a place in FNQ that I visit a few times a year for varying periods, and sometimes my flight passes through Sydney - not my first choice, but often it's the cheapest fare to Cairns at the time, if not the only one.

John is the pretty one in that photo, right? Well, I did hint that you and I look pretty much like bros, didn't I? I hope you'll both have just the greatest time in Greece. Wish I could be there.

I'm ashamed to say that I have a Fleming 1st cousin, Ross, living (stroke, rest home) about 50km north of me who I haven't seen for 30 years. Don't even know if he has sons. He and his older bro Jim (gone some 10 years MND I think) were the only Flemings left as far as I'm aware, so I now consider it a sacred duty to determine their progeny and report accordingly. My sister keeps in touch, but I've been more concerned with tracing my dad's pesky family over recent years. Results have been partly satisfying, partly frustrating, but I've built up an extensive Family Tree on My Heritage, with the Flemings sitting on a little branch to one side. Until now, that is. I have also used My Heritage DNA testing for me and several of the family, but I don't consider it to be a particularly good site. The DNA is only marginally useful (too general in nature), except that one Ballantyne relative popped up as a match with me. But I have forgotten her name and other details. Didn't seem that relevant at the time given my priorities re dad's Cornish family, and his paternal granddad's Brazilian origins (and talk about elusive!).

Take care. I'll be in touch again, and don't forget to "friend" me on FB. If you do, I'll have a go at Skyping you - if I can master the damn technology.

Warmest

Ron

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Sent: Sunday, August 11, 2019 5:07 PM

Subject: RE: NZ Fleming Family stuff

Hi Ron

It is great to hear from you again. I had your old email in my Inbox as a reminder that I needed to follow you up, so you just beat me to it! Thank you so much for undertaking this task for me. I really appreciate it. I’m particularly looking forward to seeing the photo of William and his mother and sister.

Now for the bad news in relation to my Uncle Jim. He passed away on 6 January. He had been taken ill at his aged care home just a day after I visited him in early December and went downhill very fast. He was 84. Unfortunately he had expressed a wish for no funeral which my cousin Barry respected.

Eric’s daughter is Julie Gibson (husband Mick). She has a daughter Dana and a son Matthew. She lives at Tuncurry; Dana is in Sydney somewhere. I am not sure about Matthew. I last saw Julie at Auntie Irene’s funeral (1996) but I have been in touch by phone, email and Xmas cards. I last spoke to her in January after Jim died. I can put you in touch with her if you like.

No I am not married but have a long-term partner, John. My brother Patrick has produced the next generation, thankfully. He has three adult children: Amber, Ruby and Jed. Amber and Ruby have long-term boyfriends; Jed’s long-term girlfriend moved away for Uni. There has been no talk of marriage for any of them so far though. The onus is on Jed to continue the Fleming name in Oz. Barry’s two children are both girls. What is the status of the family name in NZ – any boys to carry it on?

I am currently doing my best to get a breakthrough on the origins of the Fleming family in Scotland. The earliest I have found is Angus Fleming (c1800-1831). To that end, Patrick has recently submitted his DNA for analysis. There are three matches with the Fleming surname and I will be contacting them tomorrow. Fingers crossed!

My sister Shae also did a DNA test and that led to a breakthrough on the Ballantyne side (Margaret Fleming’s maiden name). I have recently written 3 short essays on this – see my website blog here - http://jimfleming.id.au/up/Blog.htm

I hope you enjoyed your Queensland holiday. John and I are both looking forward to a holiday to Greece next month. We will be away for a month as part of a small group of six. We will start in Athens; do a 9-day guided driving tour to Thessaloniki via Delphi and Meteora; fly to Kefalonia for a few days; a week on Corfu; then back to Athens and onto home. I’m looking forward to some warmer weather!

I am currently moving ahead to gain the accreditation from Rookwood cemetery to tend to the grave of Angus Fleming who died in Sydney in 1887. He was old Charles’ brother (born 1862).

Regards

Jim Fleming

Unit 3, 4 Currawang Street

Cammeray NSW 2062

Australia

Researching: Bowen, Flowerdew, Gardner, Gordon, Grady, Hanrahan, Jolliffe, Kemp, Kessey, Murphy, Poulton, Press and so many more!

Website: http://jimfleming.id.au/up/index.htm

I am regularly updating my website, so Like my Facebook page to hear the latest: https://www.facebook.com/jimsgeniejottings/

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Sent: Sunday, August 11, 2019 12:33 PM

Subject: NZ Fleming Family stuff

Kia ora Jim.

Should have said I'm gathering Fleming names and dates for you. Cousins are working for me on that as we speak.

Better late than never, eh?

Problem was I was in Qld when I got your last email and intended to get to work when I got back to NZ. But life got hectic and i got distracted, so you can figure the rest.

Now I'm really on to it, and many thanks for the names and relationships supplied. I have been able to slot them all in, and at last have the macro-picture that eluded me for years.

Is your Uncle Jim still going strong?

What was Pearl and Eric's daughter's name? She, husband, and (I trhink) new baby were at the 1961 Christmas I spent with them at Dulwich Hill.

Do you have a family yourself? No details to hand. I am a bachelor academic perfectly happy with a hermit (monk's?) existence - if only folks could get that inside their skulls!!! lol

Ron

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Sent: Saturday, August 10, 2019 3:13 PM

Subject: ancestry

Kia ora Jim.

Sorry it's taken so long, but at last my sister has handed me some photos discovered as she moved house.

The only exciting one as far as you will be concerned is a B&W box brownie of my granddad, William (Will) Fleming, his mother, Margaret Scott Fleming (nee Ballantyne), and a sister who I assume to be Christina Hynes (nee Fleming).

I have dates for Will and his mum, but only a birthdate for sister Christina b. circa 1888.

The photo is prior to 1930 (as g g grandma Fleming died in that year), but in or after the death of husband Charles in 1928 as she is in widow's weeds.

There is only one surviving Fleming in Auckland of my generation, and he's in a rest home. I shall make contact with his wife and forward your June 2018 email to her. I'm sure Ross Fleming will be tickled pink. His sisters are in Wellington I believe.

The photos that might interest you I shall have transported onto a disc and email it across (if I can master the technology).

Regards to all Ozzie cousins.

Ron Davis

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Sent: Tuesday, June 12, 2018 5:58 PM

Subject: Re: Fleming cousins

Kia ora Jim.

Many thanks for the generous proportions of your response. I am indeed Rosa's son.

I am in Qld right now, where I spend long periods of winter. When I get back home I shall certainly attend to your requests for info and photos. Sister Dianne has many of the latter as I recall, and I have a copy of Will's birth certificate aboard ship in the China Sea before they registered his birth in Townsville. I have been to Coatbridge whence the Flemings left to come down under via Greenock. Also to gg grandma Ballantyne's home village.

July 31st sees me off to SW England tracking my Davis ancestors for 5 weeks.

Greetings to all good Ozzie rellies meantime.

Ron Davis (Davies)

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On 12 June 2018 at 19:00 jim fleming <jim.fleming@ozemail.com.au> wrote:

Hi Ron

Thank you so much for getting in touch. I’m sorry for the delay in replying. I should monitor my Yahoo email inbox more often!

According to my family history records, you are Rosa’s son.

I am descended from your grandfather William’s brother Charles (born 1878). He was the only member of the family to stay in Australia when everyone else moved to New Zealand. I descend through his fourth son (second surviving son - Reginald Angus 1908-1984); thence through Reginald Bruce (1929-2016). I was born in 1955 and have sisters Shae (1957), Peta (1960) and brother Patrick (1967). Patrick is married to Lisa Davis (one of your mob!) and they have daughters Amber, Ruby and son Jed. Dad has a brother James Ballantyne Fleming still living in Canberra. Uncle Jim has a son Barry (b. 1957) who has two daughters. Dad and Jim also have a half-brother Geoffrey Fleming who lives in Mackay with his wife Fiona. They have a daughter Renee and a son David (both with children of their own).

You and Dad are 2nd cousins. The attached photo shows brothers (L to R) Jim, Bruce and Geoff in 2016 a couple of weeks before Dad died. This was the first time in their lives that they had ever been photographed together.

I believe that your visit in 1961 at Dulwich Hill would have been hosted by Dad’s uncle Eric (Reginald Angus’ brother). He and his wife Pearl lived at Dulwich Hill for many years. I am in contact with their daughter Julie Gibson and her daughter Dana; she also has a son Matthew.

I knew that Uncle Eric and his sister Irene kept in touch with some of our Kiwi cousins while they were alive. Their parents visited family in NZ in 1915, 1921, 1928 and 1934 (sometimes with Irene as well). After Charles died in 1937, his wife Ada and Irene visited family in NZ in 1939. I know that my grandfather (Reg) corresponded with his first cousin (Colin Rafferty; adopted by Elizabeth nee Fleming) while they were both serving in the Middle East in 1941. I think Irene continued to visit after the war – I have photos she took on a visit in the early 1980s. Irene put Dad in touch with your uncle Nolan Rafferty (Elizabeth’s son) in the 1980s. Nolan gave us some family details by letter (which I still have; stashed away somewhere).

I visited NZ in 1997 and managed to arrange a get-together with Nolan’s daughter Tina Flynn (who lives in Napier). Aunty Irene also put me in touch with Nolan’s cousin Verla (Christina’s daughter) in Auckland but we didn’t meet. Tina Flynn showed me the diary written by Charles Fleming aboard the Eastern Monarch on their way from Glasgow to Townsville in 1883. She also very generously gave me some family photographs.

More recently I have corresponded with Tina Flynn and with Verla’s daughter Glenis Henry about family photographs. They contributed to the book that I compiled in 2015: Fleming photograph catalogue. Your mother Rosa appears in a couple of the photographs that I managed to collect. There are more details about the book here:

http://au.blurb.com/b/6751855-fleming-photograph-catalogue

I remember Tina or Glenis commenting that their branches of the Kiwi Flemings had lost touch with your branch somewhere along the line. So it was with great pleasure that I received your email. I would really appreciate it if you could supply details of William’s descendants. And if you have any pre-1955 family photographs I would love to obtain copies!

Once again, thanks for getting in touch.

Regards

Jim Fleming

Unit 3, 4 Currawang Street

Cammeray NSW 2062

Australia

61 430373260

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From: jim fleming <jimflemingnsw@yahoo.com.au>

Sent: Friday, June 8, 2018 11:47 AM

To: jim fleming <jim.fleming@ozemail.com.au>

Subject: Fw: Fleming Web Site: membership request by ron davis

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------- Forwarded message -----

From: ron davis <ron.davis1@xtra.co.nz>

To: "jimflemingnsw@yahoo.com.au" <jimflemingnsw@yahoo.com.au>

Sent: ‎Tuesday‎, ‎3‎ ‎April‎ ‎2018‎ ‎10‎:‎59‎:‎27‎ ‎PM‎ ‎AEST

Subject: Fleming Web Site: membership request by ron davis

Hi Jim,‎

ron davis is requesting membership in your site.

Name: ron davis

Email: ron.davis1@xtra.co.nz

Address: New Zealand

Reason for request: Hi Jim. Picked up match for my great great grandmother Ballentine/Ballentyne. Granddad was William Fleming b. 1883 aboard Eastern Monarch. We are Kiwis. I spent Christmas day 1961 with your grands(?) at Dulwich Hill with my sister Faye. I made the mistake of punching the ADD key and ended up with 40 distant relatives in a tree containing only about 20 names. Ron Davies by name (I go by Davis)

Have a great day,

MyHeritage team